



Lee Ellmaker

November 13, 1944 - March 7, 2021

Lee Hulver Ellmaker, age 76, of Gravois Mills, Missouri, passed away Sunday, March 7, 2021 at his home. He was born November 13, 1944 in Kansas City, Missouri a son of James Robert and Merrie Dean (Hulver) Ellmaker.

On July 21, 1972 in Arlington, Virginia, he was united in marriage to Maxine Ann Vassanelli. Together they shared the past forty-eight years of marriage.

Lee was raised in Lexington, Missouri, became an Eagle Scout with Troop 318 and was a graduate of Lexington High School in the class of 1962. While attending college, he joined the United States Army and served his country proudly in the Vietnam War. He served in Da Nang, Can Tho and Saigon at the MACV Headquarters before being honorably discharged as a Captain. Lee enlisted with the Army National Guard and retired from the military after thirty-two years of service to his country. He began a career as a mechanic at the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant and retired to the Lake of the Ozarks on 2007.

He was a member of the First Christian Church of Lexington, Osage Community Elks Lodge #2705 in Laurie Missouri, Elks Lodge #749 in Lexington, Missouri and the Lake Ozark Corvette Club. In his free time, he enjoyed fishing and tinkering. He like working on any type of engine and was currently restoring a 1949 Ford flatbed pickup truck.

Survivors include his wife, Maxine Ellmaker of the home; his mother, Merrie Dean Stewart of Higginsville, Missouri; a son, James Robert Ellmaker and wife Christina of Oak Grove, Missouri; two grandchildren, Madilyn Ellmaker and Parker Ellmaker; a sister, Linda Stabenow and husband Phil of Lee's Summit, Missouri; nieces and nephews and a host of friends, He was preceded in death by his father, Bob Ellmaker.

Graveside services with military honors will be held at 3:00 p.m., Friday, March 12, 2021 at Missouri Veterans Cemetery, Higginsville, Missouri.

Memorial donations may be made to B.S.A. Troop 318 in Lexington, B.S.A. Troop 4266 in Oak Grove or the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Higginsville

20109 M0-13
Higginsville, MO

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 12. 3:00 PM (CT)

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20109 M0-13
Higginsville, MO

Tribute Wall

BA

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you, Max and Rob and family. Lee was such a good guy. He will certainly be missed as a classmate and a good friend.*

Barb Amor

Barb Amor - March 11, 2021 at 03:45 PM

LK

“ *Our condolences to Lee's family. So sorry for your loss. Had fond memories of Lee in our 1962 high school class.*

Lloyd and Emma Kaullen - March 11, 2021 at 11:23 AM

SL

“ *Maxine, Robbie and family I am so sorry to hear about Lee. Jamie, Chris (Terence) and I have such fond memories from when you all lived across the street from us. So glad I got to visit with the two of you 2 years ago at the Lex. Sending prayers. Jamie, Chris and Sheila*

Sheila Lee - March 10, 2021 at 09:55 PM

JB

“ *Sorry to hear of Lee's passing. I can't recall ever seeing him without an ornery smile on his face. He definitely loved to have fun! To his family, we send our love and prayers. I can't express how much our hearts ache for you. With our deepest sympathy, Jim and Janice Bertz*

Janice bertz - March 10, 2021 at 04:04 PM

DN

“ So sorry to hear of Lee’s passing...I have very fond memories of spending time with Lee, Linda and the entire family so many years ago. Going to Sunday family dinners at the Hulver home, going with them on a vacation to Colorado.... love is still in my heart for the entire family!!! Proud of him and Max for their service to our Country. He will be missed by many!

Debby Neer - March 10, 2021 at 10:47 AM

JB

“ Sorry for your loss. Thank you and Lee for your service as well. Be Well.

John Brenneman - March 10, 2021 at 09:47 AM

JS

“ So MANY memories, where do we begin? Our friendship with Lee & Max has spanned over 40 years. So many great times! Parties at Pryor Lodge, the SuperBowl Sundays & of course the magnificent Lake! No matter who you were, you were treated as a Royal guest. Max , Robbie & family our hearts are full & please know we love you so very much! Love, Walt & Jeanette

Jeanette & Walt Smith - March 09, 2021 at 06:23 PM

KG

“ So very sorry to hear about Lee's passing. Maxine, Rob and family you are all in my prayers during this difficult time.

Kim Wingate Goodlove - March 09, 2021 at 05:49 PM

EM

“ There isn't enough room to share all of the memories I have. He was a larger than life person for the group of friends I grew up with. Always putting up with us but never turning us away, his house was one of the many places I called home. I never realized how much Lee and Max gave up of their time always letting us come over or go to the lake with them. A lifetime of memories. I will miss you Lee. Max, Rob and family, deepest condolences from the Morgan family. We love you!

Eric Morgan - March 09, 2021 at 03:46 PM